



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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14
ACTION: MEA-12

INFO: OCT-01 EUR-26 ADP-00 IO-13 SY-10 US88-00 CIAE-00

CODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20

PC-04 OMB-01 OC-06 CCO-00 RSR-01 INRE-00 /146 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4278

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 5318

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHAN COUP: SITREP B, 1200 HOURS LOCAL, JULY 20

REF: KABUL 5305

1. SECURITY TIGHTENED IN KABUL EVENING JULY 19, AS EMBASSY INFORMED BY SERGEANT OF GUARD AT GATE THAT ALL FOREIGN PERSONNEL TRYING TO PASS THROUGH ROADBLOCKS IN CITY WOULD BE DETAINED UNTIL 0630 IN MORNING. ORDER APPARENTLY NOT ENFORCED. MORNING JULY 20 SITUATION REMAINS AS ON PREVIOUS DAYS. EARLY MORNING (7:30 AM) THREE-SECTION FLIGHT MIG-21'S MADE SEVERAL LOW PASSES OVER CITY, AS DID FLIGHTS OF HELICOPTERS AND SINGLE IL-14.

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2. CONTRADICTING PREVIOUS REPORT ON RECOGNITION, RADIO AFGHANISTAN BROADCAST EVENING JULY 19 REPORTED THAT ONLY USSR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD SO FAR GRANTED RECOGNITION TO NEW GOVERNMENT. REPORT STATED THAT NEW PRESIDENT OF STATE AND PRIME MINISTER OF REPUBLIC MOHAMMAD DAUD HAD RECEIVED SOVIET AMBASSADOR PUZANOV AND THAT SOVAMIS SAID HIS GOVERNMENT, BELIEVING THAT "RECENT EVENT" WAS INTERNAL AFFAIR OF AFGHANISTAN, EXTENDED OFFICIAL RECOGNITION.]

TOLD EMBOFF THAT USSR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYED MINIMAL CRITERIA AS BASIS FOR RECOGNITION NAMELY THAT (1) GOVERNMENT BE IN CONTROL OF COUNTRY (WHICH TO ALL REPORTS IT WAS) AND (2) THAT A GOVERNMENT BE CONSTITUTED (WHICH HE SAID PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT OF DAUD IN CONTROL OF FOUR PORTFOLIOS SATISFIED).

SAID DAUD LOOKED HEALTHY, DETERMINED AND DECISIVELY ON TOP OF SITUATION.

3. ALL INDIA AND PAKI

EVENING JULY 19 REPORT INDIA HAS RECOGNIZED NEW REGIME. ✓

TOLD EMBOFF EVENING JULY 19 THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD RECOMMENDED HIS GOVERNMENT EXTEND RECOGNITION, HE HAD NO OFFICIAL WORD YET OF DECISION IN NEW DELHI.

4. GOVERNMENT DAILY KABUL TIMES JULY 19 TRANSLATED OFFICIAL TITLE MOHAMMAD DAUD AS "PRESIDENT OF STATE", NOT "PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC" AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. "PEOPLES REPUBLIC" FORMULATION HEARD ON FIRST DAY OF COUP HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN USED SINCE "REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN" IS OFFICIAL TITLE. PRESS AND RADIO REPORTS CONTINUE TO CARRY STORIES OF PEOPLE "ENTHUSIASTICALLY" GREETING NEW REGIME.

5. GOVERNMENT HAS POSTED TROOPS AT BAKERIES AROUND CITY TO ENSURE PRICE AND QUALITY STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED. SUGAR PRICES REPORTEDLY HAVE BEEN REDUCED FROM AFS 24 TO 16/KILO AND MEAT PRICES ALSO REDUCED. OBVIOUS INTENT IS TO OBTAIN SUPPORT COMMON PEOPLE FOR NEW REGIME.

6. FORMER POLICE OFFI

MILITARY GOVERNORS HAD BEEN DESIGNATED FOR ALL 28 PROVINCES WAS IN ERROR. HE DID NOT DENY POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, THAT MILITARY GOVERNORS HAD BEEN NAMED FOR SOME PROVINCES, FOR EXAMPLE, IN

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PAKTIA AND KANDAHAR.

7. [] SAID HE UNABLE ACCOUNT FOR SOURCE OR VERACITY OF BBC REPORTS REGARDING SITUATION KABUL (E.G., THAT SAROAR ABOL WALI WAS KILLED AND OTHER UNCONFIRMED STORIES). HE SAID REPORTS PROBABLY EMANATE FROM BBC CORRESPONDENT TEHRAN WHO PROBABLY OBTAINING UNRELIABLE REPORTS FROM IRANIAN GOVERNMENT SOURCE.

8. GERMAN AND PAK EMBASSIES REPORT THAT AFGHAN-PAK BORDER AT TORKHAM IS OPEN AND THAT PAKISTANI BUS TRAFFIC OPERATING BOTH DIRECTIONS. GERMAN EMBASSY REPORTS THAT ONE GERMAN CORRESPONDENT HERE DURING COUP HAS SUCCEEDED IN LEAVING AFGHANISTAN WITH COPY AND PICTURES. HE ADDED THAT TWO MORE GERMAN CORRESPONDENTS HAVE ARRIVED KABUL FROM PAKISTAN. CHICAGO TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT KIRK WILL ATTEMPT TO DEPART FOR DELHI VIA TORKHAM MORNING JULY 20.

9. KABUL EMBASSIES WITHOUT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT REPORT THAT MINCOMM FACILITIES WERE MADE AVAILABLE JULY 19 TO TRANSMIT BOTH ENCODED AND CLEAR TEXT MESSAGES. PREVIOUS DAY THEY WERE ABLE TO TRANSMIT CLEAR TEXTS ONLY IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH. FACILITIES REPORTEDLY OPEN FOR INCOMING INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC.

10. MEMBERSHIP OF "CENTRAL COMMITTEE" OF NEW REGIME REMAINS LARGELY UNKNOWN. AMONG NAMES THAT CONTINUE TO CROP UP ARE DAUD'S BROTHER, MR. (PRINCE) NAINI; MAJGEN MOHAMMAD KARIM MOSTAGHNI, CHIEF INSPECTOR, MECHANIZED AND ARMORED UNITS, HNO. KHAN MOHAMMAD KHAN, RETIRED ARMY GENERAL AND FORMER GOVERNOR, JALALLABAD; GENERAL ABOL RAZAG, FORMER AIR FORCE COMMANDER; SENATOR MOHAMMAD ASEF, RETIRED FORMER AIR FORCE COMMANDER; GENERAL SAYED HASSANI; RETIRED FORMER ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF;

GENERAL MOHAMMAD REASUL (RETHLY DAUD'S FORMER CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE); AND HASSAN SHARG, DAUD'S FORMER PERSONAL AIDE. ALL ARE EITHER KHER CRONIES OR PROTEGES OF DAUD DURING HIS YEARS AS PRIME MINISTER; AND MOST ARE DAUD'S CONTEMPORARIES IN AGE. WHAT IS LACKING (FOR BOTH OURSELVES AND MOST AFGHANS HERE) ARE NAMES AND IDENTITIES OF YOUNGER MILITARY OFFICERS WHO REPORTEDLY DIRECTED COUP AND ARE PLACED IN CHARGE OF KEY MILITARY POSITIONS AROUND CITY, WHO MIGHT RECEIVE INSTRUMENTAL

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POSITIONS WHEN GOVERNMENT MORE FULLY FORMED.

11. AMONG CIVILIANS BEING MENTIONED AS LIKELY CANDIDATES FOR HIGH GOVERNMENT POSTS ARE : NIAMATULLAH PAZHWAK, SHAFIQ'S MININT; ABSUL RAHMAN PAZHWAK (UNCLE OF NIAMATULLAH), FORMER AFGHAN PERMREP TO UN, JUST RETURNED KABUL, ABDULLAH MALIKYAR, AFGHAN AMBASSADOR WASHINGTON; NASRATULLAH MALIKYAR (NEPHEW), MINCONM UNDER SHAFIQ AND ZAHIR GOVERNMENTS; AND ABOL HAKIM TABIZI, FORMER AFGHAN AMBASSADOR NEW DELHI AND RECENTLY DESIGNATED UN PERMREP.
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EXCISED COPY FOLLOWS

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. Security tightened in Kabul evening July 19, as Embassy informed by sergeant of guard at gate that 11 foreign personnel trying to pass through roadblocks in city would be detained until 0630 in morning. Order apparently not enforced. Morning July 20 situation remains as on previous days. Early morning (7:30 a.m.) three-section flight MIG-GIs made several low passes over city as did flights of helicopters and single [illeg]

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KABUL 5318

S.O. 11652: GDS

TASS: PINT, AF

SUBJECT: Afghan Coup: SITEEP 8, 1200 hours local, July 20

REF: Kabul 5305

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DRAFTED BY

POL:ASchifferdecker

CLEARANCES

DATT:Col. McTaggart

POD:SRickard (draft)

DHCohn (draft)

Classified by ASchifferdecker

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TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

2. Contradicting previous report on recognition, Radio Afghanistan broadcast evening July 19 reported that only USSR and Czechoslovakia had so far granted recognition to new government. Report stated that new President of State and Prime Minister of Republic Mohammad Daud had received Soviet Ambassador Puzanov and that SovAmb said his government, believing that "recent event" was internal affair of Afghanistan, extended official recognition.

[lines excised]

3. All India and Pakistan radio broadcasts monitored evening July 19 report India has recognized new regime. Indian Amb Mehts told Emboff evening July 19 that although he had recommended his government extend recognition, he had no official word yet of decision in New Delhi.

4. Government daily Kabul Times July 19 translated official title Mohammad Daud as "President of State", not "President of Republic" as previously reported. "Temples Republic" formulation heard on first day of coup has not rpt not been

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PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

8. German and Pak embassies report that Afghan-Pak border at Torkham is open and that Pakistani bus traffic operating both directions. German EmbOff reports that one German correspondent here during coup has succeeded in leaving Afghanistan with copy and pictures. It added that two more German correspondents have arrived Kabul from Pakistan.

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used since... "Republic of Afghanistan" is official title.

Press and radio reports continue to carry stories of people "enthusiastically" greeting new regime.

5. Government has posted troops at bakeries around city to ensure price and quality standards are maintained. Sugar prices reportedly have been reduced from Af's 24 to 16/kilo and meat prices also reduced. Obvious intent is to obtain support common people for new regime.

6. Former police officer MinInt told EmbOff reports that military mg governors had been designated for all 28 provinces was in error. He did not deny possibility, however, that military governors had been named for some provinces, for example, in Paktia and Kandahar.

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Chicago Tribune correspondent. Kirk will attempt to depart for Delhi via Torkham morning July 20.

9. Kabul embassies without telecommunications report that MinCom facilities were made available July 19 to transmit both encoded and clear text messages. Previous day they were able to transmit clear texts only in English and French.

Facilities reportedly open for incoming international traffic.

10. Membership of "Central Committee" of new regime remains largely unknown. Among names that continue to crop up are Daud's brother, Mr. (Prince) Naim; MajGen Mohammad Karim Mostaghni, Chief Inspector, Mechanized and Armored Units, MND; Khan Mohammad Khan, retired Army General and former governor, Jalalabad; General Abdul Razaq, former Air Force Commander; Senator Mohammad Asef, retired former Air Force Commander; General Sayed Hassan, retired former Army Chief of Staff; General Mohammad Rasul (Ret.), Daud's former Chief of Intelligence; and Hassan Sharq, Daud's former personal aide. All are either former cronies or proteges of Daud during his years as Prime Minister; and most are Daud's contemporaries in age. What is lacking (for both ourselves and most Afghans here) are names and identities of younger military officers who reportedly directed coup and are placed in charge of key military positions around city, who might receive instrumental positions when government more fully formed.

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11. Among civilians being mentioned as likely candidates for high government posts are: Nizamutullah Pazhwak, Shafiq's Minister; Abdul Rahman Pazhwak (uncle of Nizamutullah), former Afghan PermRep UN, just returned Kabul; Abdullah Malikyar, Afghan Ambassador Washington; Nasrullah Malikyar (nephew) Minister under Shafiq and Amir governments; and Abdul Hakim Tabibi, former Afghan Ambassador New Delhi and recently designated UN PermRep.

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